

swelling portion connected to the outer periphery by the stepped portion, the outer periphery and the swelling portion lying in different planes;

rotating the disc-shaped metal material;

pressing the outer periphery of the metal sheet material in a radially inward direction, while continuing to rotate the metal sheet material;

thickening the outer periphery axially and without buckling by said pressing;

protruding the outer periphery to either side of the non-processed portion of the metal sheet material; and

forming a peripheral wall protruding to either side of the non-processed portion.

Please add the following new claim:

9. (New) The method of manufacturing an annular member from a disc-shaped metal sheet material as defined in claim 1, the disc-shaped metal sheet defining an axis of symmetry, the method further comprising the step of:

extending the swelling portion to the axis of symmetry.

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8 are pending and these have been further examined and finally rejected for the following reasons: (1) claims 1-6 and 8 are rejected as anticipated under 35 USC 102(b) over Kanemitsu; and (2) claims 1-6 and 8 as unpatentable under 35 USC 103 over Deggau et al in view of Ohya et al.